PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY

(*OFFICIAL REPORT*)

FIRST ASSEMBLY

SEVENTH SESSION

Wednesday, the 15th April 1936/3rd Medam 1111.

The Assembly met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven of the clock, with Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir Muhammed Habibullah Sahib Bahadur, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., Kt., L. L. D., the Dewan-President in the chair.

MEMBERS SWORN

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls.

1. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan
2. Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai
3. Mr. M. Govinda Pillai
4. Mr. C. Kumara Das
5. Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai
6. Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai
7. Mr. T. C. Thommen
8. Mr. G. B. E. Truscott
9. Mr. James Simpson.

MOTION RE: EXPRESSION OF REGRET ON THE DEATH OF HIS LATE MAJESTY KING GEORGE V, AND CONGRATULATIONS TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VIII UPON HIS ACCESSION.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, after that sad event, which took place in the early hours of the 21st of January last casting a gloom over the whole world and particularly over the British Empire, this House meets, for the first time, to-day. The House owes to itself the duty of recording its deep sorrow at the loss which the Empire has sustained by the demise of His Late Majesty King George V, Emperor of India; and I move, for the acceptance of the House, the following resolution :

"That this Assembly do place on record an expression of its deep sorrow on the death of His Late Majesty King George V, Emperor of India, and of its heart felt sympathy with His Majesty King Edward VIII, Emperor of India, and Her Gracious Majesty Queen Mary, in Their Majesties' grievous loss, and do convey to His Majesty its loyal congratulations upon His Majesty's accession to the Throne and assurance of devotion to His Royal person."

G. P. T. 1743. 350. 20-9-111.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

His late Majesty will go down in history as one of the greatest Sovereigns that ruled over the vast British Empire. During His Majesty's 26 years of reign, the world witnessed many momentous changes. Empires have fallen, monarchies have disappeared, republics have come into existence and dictatorships have been established. But the British Empire alone stands strong and firm, more closely welded together than ever before by the unifying influence of that great Sovereign His late Majesty King George the Fifth. In His Majesty we had an ideal Sovereign. He was the embodiment of all those virtues which we associate with a loving and kind Ruler, and a sincere and intensely human gentleman. By his deep sympathy with the ideals and aspirations and with the sufferings and hardships of his people, His late Majesty has enshrined himself in their hearts for all timess to come, and won from them a degree of loyalty and affection which very few Sovereigns enjoyed.

For India and her people, His late Majesty always had a warm heart. The annual messages which His Majesty used to send out during Christmas, and, particularly, that great message which His Majesty broadcast in connection with the Silver Jubilee, bore ample testimony to the deep interest he took in Indian affairs and to the abiding sympathy he had for the people of this great country. During these troublous times of political commotion, communal squabbles, social upheavals and economic distress, in the midst of these shifting sands, the one bed-rock which the people of India looked up to with hope and consolation was the great personality of His late Majesty. In him, we Indians have lost not only a good and loving Emperor but a sincere and true friend. May his soul rest in peace!

The King is dead; long live the King. His late Majesty has gone to the Kingdom of Heaven leaving his place here to be filled by his beloved son His Majesty King Edward VIII. In the very first declaration which His Majesty made after his accession to the Throne, he announced:

> "I am determined to follow my father's foot-steps, and work, as he did throughout his life, for the happiness and welfare of all classes of my subjects".

What more guarantee is wanted to prove that His Majesty King Edward VIII will be a worthy successor to a worthy father? Let us join with the rest of the Empire to tender our humble and respectful feelings of loyalty and devotion to the Throne and Person of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VIII, Emperor of India, and pray for his long life and happiness.

With these words, I commend the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): In supporting the resolution before the House, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments so eloquently expressed by the Chief Secretary on behalf of Government. The demise of His Majesty King Emperor George V cast a gloom over the whole Empire

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

and the poignancy of our sorrow was aggravated by the fact that it came soon after the Jubilee celebrations. The subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja of Travancore are as loyal to the British Crown as the inhabitants of any other part of the Empire of which the Crown is the visible symbol and ultimate protection. The Indian States are and will continue to be loyal and faithful to the British Raj as well as to their respective rulers. To us democracy has little meaning if it is not associated with kingship and it is our firm hope that in the larger and fuller life of a Federated India, personal loyalty of the people of the State to their Princes and to the King Emperor will stabilise the forces which make for well-ordered progress. His late Majesty watched the progress of British India and the States with anxious eyes and blessed all healthy movements for the real good of the country. He has left the earthly sphere. We pray for his soul with tear-dimmed eyes. Our consolation is that the accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII is whispering new joys into our ears and we feel like the poet that the fragrance of the flower which has withered has appeared in another form in the sweetness of the fruit.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Sir, I rise to add a few words by way of support to the resolution moved by the Chief Secretary to Government. No earlier opportunity offered itself to this House to give expression to the profound sorrow on the demise of King George V, Emperor of India ; but the inevitable lapse of time, I am sure, would not affect the heartfelt sincerity of the loyal and humble condolence recorded by this House. For over a quarter of a century His Majesty King George V Emperor of India was on the Throne ; to borrow the Poet's language

> No sin blighted, no sorrow faded His Majesty's career,
> Ere death went to him with friendly eate.

He had no doubt to encounter trying and troublous days marked by violent upheavals and deep depressions, but without any excitement he was able to pilot the vast realms under his sway to security and tranquillity. He had also long stretches of peaceful days. He lived through them with noteworthy self-restraint, without degenerating at the same time into indolence and without deviating into the pursuit of illusory pleasures. His Majesty's main idea and object was the removal of human misery and service to mankind without ostentation. In that respect His Majesty was able to secure, with the help of his noble consort, signal success. Now that he has passed under the pale flag of death, who would not realise the immense loss sustained and who would remain immune to the pangs of poignant sorrow? The only solace in this connection is that the late King has been succeeded by a worthy son, well-trained and disciplined to take up the burden. Britain and her dependencias have good reason to congratulate themselves on the accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII Emperor of India who, as has been already said by the learned Chief Secretary, is prepared to follow in the noble footsteps of his worthy father. Let us pray that

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai.]

His Majesty be long spared for many years to preserve, to shape and, where necessary, to reshape and guide the inter-relations between India and England, established during the reign of Queen Victoria the Good. With these words, I whole-heartedly support the resolution moved by the Chief Secretary to Government.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Sir, on behalf of my party, I beg to associate myself with the feelings and sentiments given expression to by the honourable Leader of the House and other honourable members who preceded me and I beg to support this resolution.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, I rise to support the resolution before the House. In doing so, Sir, I endorse fully the sentiments given expression to on the floor of this House, expressing deep sorrow for the demise of His late Majesty King George V and also expressing sympathy for His Majesty King Edward VIII and the Dowager Queen on their sad bereavement and also expressing loyalty to the person and throne of His Majesty King Edward VIII.

Sir, the Travancore Royal House has been a long and faithful ally of the British Royal House. The late lamented King Emperor was known in his early days as a sailor prince. But to us Indians King George V will go down to history as a great constitutional monarch and the several kingly virtues that the King Emperor had, endeared him to all the peoples of the vast British Empire. Sir, my only prayer is, may his soul rest in peace.

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): Sir, just a few words to express our great sorrow on the demise of our Gracious Sovereign His late Majesty King George V. He was loved by all his subjects and hence his death has caused great grief among all classes of people. We request you, Sir, to convey our sincere condolences to the Royal Family in their irreparable loss. May Heaven's comfort and help rest and abide with Queen Mary and His Majesty King Edward VIII in these sad days and in the heavy responsibility they have to shoulder. With these few words, I humbly support the resolution before this House.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*) : ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഇൻഡ്യാ ചക്രവർത്തി ജാർജ്ജു പഞ്ചമൻ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നിര്യാണത്തിൽ അനുശോചനം പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഈ അസംബ്ലിയിൽ ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറി അവർകൾ വായിക്കുകയുണ്ടായ ഒരു പ്രസംഗത്തോടുകൂടി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാർദ്ദമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് രാജകുടുംബത്തിന്റെ അധീനതയിൽ ഇൻഡ്യാസാമ്രാജ്യം ആയിത്തീർന്നതോടുകൂടി ഇൻഡ്യക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള നന്മകളും പ്രതാപങ്ങളും നിസ്സീമങ്ങളാണു്. ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ അനേകകോടി അധീകൃതരുടെ അടിമത്വം

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഴിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് രാജകുടുംബമാണെന്നുള്ളതോർക്കുമ്പോൾ മറ്റുള്ള എല്ലാപേരെയുംകാൾ ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നിര്യാണത്തിൽ അനുശോചിക്കേണ്ടവർ ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ അധിവാസികളാണെന്നുള്ള ബോധം എന്നിൽ ഉളവാക്കിയ വിചാരപരമ്പരയുടെ തിരതള്ളലോടുകൂടിയാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതു്. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് രാജകുടുംബവും ഗവണ്മെൻറും ഇൻഡ്യക്കു വരുത്തിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മേന്മകൾ അനവധിയാണ്. ഈ നന്മകൾ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകൾ ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ എങ്ങിനെ അനുശോചനം പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കാതിരിക്കും. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ രാജകുടുംബത്തോടു ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് രാജകുടുംബത്തിനുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള വാത്സല്യബന്ധം ഇന്നും ഇന്നലെയും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. ശ്രീചിത്തിരതിരുനാൾ തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് ഇംഗ്ലണ്ടിൽ എഴുന്നള്ളി ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ വാത്സല്യം നേരിട്ടു സ്വീകരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതോർക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇവിടത്തെ പ്രജകൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യത്തിനവകാശമുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലേക്കും ബാക്കി രാജകുടുംബാംഗങ്ങൾക്കും ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നിര്യാണത്തിലുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള അതിരറ്റ ദുഃഖത്തിൽനിന്നും ശാന്തി നൽകുന്നതിനു ഞാൻ ജഗദീശ്വരനോടു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. അനന്തരാവകാശിയായി രാജ്യഭാരം കയ്യേറ്റിരിക്കുന്ന എഡ്വർഡ് എട്ടാമൻ തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് ആയുരാരോഗ്യസമ്പൽസമൃദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് രാജകുടുംബത്തിന്റെ സൽക്കീർത്തിയെ മുൻനിറുത്തി രാജ്യഭരണം നടത്തുവാൻ ജഗദീശ്വരൻ സഹായിക്കട്ടെ എന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ മഹനീയഭരണത്തിൻകീഴിൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂർരാജ്യം വാഴുന്ന ശ്രീചിത്തിരതിരുനാൾ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഭരണവും ഉത്തരോത്തരം അഭിവൃദ്ധിയെ പ്രാപിക്കുന്നതിനും മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു ആയുരാരോഗ്യാഭിവൃദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി നെടുനാൾ വാഴുവാൻ ജഗദീശൻ കനിയുമാറാകട്ടെ എന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും ഞാൻ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jenmies, South*): ചക്രവർത്തി തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നിര്യാണത്തിൽ അനുശോചിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറി അവർകൾ ഹാജരാക്കിയ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാർദ്ദമായി പിൻതാങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*) Sir, let me also add a few words on this occasion in support of the resolution before the House. I fully associate myself with the sentiments given expression to by the various speakers in support of the resolution. His Majesty King George V's reign was a long and eventful one, marked by very many important measures calculated to the uplift and well-being of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib.]

the various classes of His Majesty's subjects. Travancore, as has been already referred to, is a faithful ally of Great Britain and we are not a whit behind in our loyalty to the British throne. In the demise of His Majesty King Gorge V, India has lost one of the most sympathetic and benevolent Emperors that ever guided her destinies. Our only consolation is that His late Majesty is succeeded by a worthy son King Edward VIII who has begun to reign under good auspices and who has given expression to certain assurances and ideas which make the people believe that his reign will be equally glorious and calculated to render substantial good to the people at large. We will express our heartfelt sympathy to the Royal House in their sad bereavement and at the same time convey our loyal congratulations to His Majesty King Edward VIII.

PRESIDENT: Before putting this resolution to the vote of the House, let me add a few words to the sentiments which have already been expressed by the various members of the House who have spoken. To us king George is not a mere name. His late Majesty had visited India twice; once as the Prince of Wales and on the other occasion as the King Emperor. While he visited India as Prince of Wales, those of us who had the good fortune to get into touch with His Majesty's utterances, and particularly with that memorable speech which he made immediately after he returned to London, cannot forget the deep and abiding interest which King George, as Prince of Wales, had towards India.

For the first time in the annals of Indian history under the British rule, His Majesty came down to India to be crowned in the midst of his loving people. It may truly be said that his conception of the duties, obligations, and responsibilities of kingship are indeed unsurpassed. While so, his death would be mourned not merely as the death of a great Sovereign, but also as the death of a gentleman who, by his precept and example, had endeared himself to his loving subjects. This tragic event has deprived the whole world of a personality whose influence was always exercised in the direction of peace and goodness. To us in India, his memorable reign cannot easily be forgotten; for it was during his reign that the foundations of a greater India have been well and truly laid. To their Majesties, King Edward the VIII and Queen Mary, our sympathies go forth in abudance on account of this loss which they have sustained. From the message which Her Gracious Majesty Queen Mary issued to the people of the Empire after the expressions of various public bodies and institutions over his sad death, it is evident that grief has been considerably assuaged by the feeling that all the loving subjects of His late Majesty shared her grief. As was truly said, "The King is dead, long live the King." Here again the great advantage to India is that even the name of King Edward VIII cannot be regarded as a mere name. Even His Majesty has visited India as Prince of Wales. He has travelled throughout India. He has seen things for himself; he came into touch with men and matters; he has helped the realisation of the aims and aspirations of the Indian people.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Furthermore, he has had the great advantage of watching his late father govern the Empire and has had therefore the great advantage of that great influence which his father's rule must have exercised over his mind. We can therefore feel confident that His Majesty King Edward VIII will rule the Empire with as much grace, dignity, sympathy and compassion as his late father did.

Although we are in an Indian State, our loyalty to the Crown is no whit less than that of British India. Indeed, may I say that we in Travancore will yield to none in the matter of our loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Majesty. Loyalty with us has been a creed. It is an article of our faith. So therefore we can assure His Majesty King Edward VIII of our loyalty and devotion to his Person. I shall now put this resolution to the vote of the House, and I feel sure that the House will pass it all standing.

The resolution was then put and carried, all standing.

PRESIDENT : I take it that I have the permission of the House to convey this resolution to the proper quarters. As a mark of respect to the memory of His late Majesty, I adjourn the House for the whole of the day, and I direct that it shall meet again to-morrow at 11 A. M.

The House adjourned at 11-41 A. M.

K. MADHAVA KURUP,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly